

EDITORIAL.

A neat little pamphlet of 24 pages, containing the Constitution, By-laws and List of Members of the Cooper Ornithological Club of California, is at hand. This flourishing organization is doing a great service for the Ornithology of California. Its membership includes many prominent names.

It is the intention of the editor to increase the number of pages to 16 for each issue during 1898. Will not each member of the Chapter, and each reader of the BULLETIN lighten the work of the editor by sending notes or short articles for publication? There should never be a dearth of copy from which to make up each BULLETIN. Copies from your notebook, as you make the entry in the field, are what is wanted. Rare finds and phenomenal records are interesting and valuable, but do not forget that we are organized for the express purpose of studying the *life histories* of the birds. Remember also that there are now probably no complete life histories of even the commonest species written, or even known. Notes on the habits of the birds are always interesting and instructive. You who are in the heart of crowded cities may find the birds about you, and may derive genuine pleasure from them during the interim of business. Look for them and see if you don't find them.

Now that spring has come again we should remember Bird Day. There could hardly be a more effective way of bringing the claims of the birds before the people than this, of making much of a Bird Day by the school children. The better we become acquainted with the birds the more we recognize how necessary they are in the economy of Nature. Among the school children Bird Day might well be the beginning of personal acquaintance with the live birds, accomplished by short excursions into the fields and woods. It might be objected that the teacher is not well enough acquainted with the birds to teach the children. I doubt very much if there is any place in this country where some one may not be found who possesses familiarity enough with the birds to teach the children the commoner kinds, and who would delight in doing that service for the birds. Acquaintance with the food habits of many of the birds may be gained from the publications of our Agricultural Department, which it will be glad to supply to any applicant. In places favored with a museum, the children will be able to learn a great deal about the appearance of the birds from the mounted specimens. To

older persons Bird Day might well be the occasion of organizing Audubon Societies. Among other things the game laws of the state might be inquired into, with the purpose of making them more generally known to the public at large, and of securing such revision of them as might seem advisable where they are too lax. Let us all make Bird Day mean something to us this year.

Do we realize that the game laws of many of our states are dictated by sportsmen in their interest, and too often without any regard for the proper protection of the animals? This ought not so to be. As naturalists we should combine our forces and see to it that laws are enacted which shall afford adequate protection to the animals. Let this matter rest upon the conscience of each one until the desired object is accomplished. Delay means the useless death of many animals.

INFORMATION WANTED.

As to the arrival of Killdeer, Meadowlark, Bronzed Grackle, Robin and Bluebird for 1898. In order to make this record of practical value, every member of the Chapter and every reader of this notice should report. Please give the exact date on which each species was first seen, and when next seen, and when it became common, if possible. The date of first appearance is the most important for this comparison. Please send the records without delay to Lynds Jones, Oberlin, Ohio. A postal card will hold them. If any of these species wintered with you, please so state. In such a case the first *migrants* would constitute the first records.

ELECTION OF NEW MEMBERS.

For Active Membership.—Russell Gray, Philadelphia, Pa.

Admitted to Associate Membership.—Miss Ednah Knox, Sheffield, Ill.

PUBLICATIONS RECEIVED.

Contributions to Philippine Ornithology, by Dean C. Worcester, A. B., and Frank S. Bourns, M. D. From the Proceedings of the U. S. National Museum, Vol. XX, pages 549-625. (with plates LV-LXI). These